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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ROCKVILLE WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY
TO CONSPIRACY TO BRIBE WITNESS**

Greenbelt, Maryland - United States Attorney Thomas M. DiBiagio announced today that Sharon Doye, age 50, of Rockville, Maryland pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. to conspiracy to bribe a witness in a federal firearms and narcotics prosecution of her son, Irvin Sylvester Doye.

According to the statement of facts presented to the court, on July 16, 2002 Irvin Doye was arrested by Montgomery County Police Department ("MCPD") officers at an apartment in Rockville, Maryland. The following day a criminal complaint was filed in federal court charging Irvin Doye with possessing with intent to distribute 5 grams or more of crack cocaine. The complaint also charged that on June 28, 2002 Irvin Doye, a previously-convicted felon, knowingly and unlawfully possessed a Colt .357 caliber revolver. The affidavit in support of the criminal complaint explained that MCPD and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives used a cooperating witness to purchase crack cocaine and the Colt revolver from Irvin Doye. Irvin Doye was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshals Service.

Based on the affidavit, Sharon Doye and Irvin Doye determined the identity of the witness who allegedly purchased the Colt revolver from Irvin Doye on June 28, 2002. They had numerous conversations about how to defend the firearms charge by persuading the witness to testify that he had not received a gun from Irvin Doye. Between approximately July 16, 2002 and August 26, 2002, Sharon Doye and Irvin Doye conspired to persuade the witness to falsely state that the witness had not received a firearm from Irvin Doye. On several occasions, Sharon Doye offered the witness \$500 to state that a bag the witness received from Irvin Doye on June 28 did not contain the Colt revolver. She provided the witness with a telephone number of an investigator for the Office of the Federal Public Defender, which at the time represented Irvin Doye, and instructed the witness to contact the investigator to provide the false information about the events of June 28. Irvin Doye also told the witness to falsely state that the bag Irvin Doye gave the witness on June 28 was empty. On or about August 26, 2002 Sharon Doye again told the witness to falsely state that the bag that Irvin Doye gave the witness on June 28 was empty and that the witness would receive \$500 after providing the false information to the investigator. The witness refused and the information was never transmitted to the Public Defender's Office or used in Irvin Doye's case.

Judge Williams scheduled sentencing of Sharon Doye for July 14, 2003. Sharon Doye faces a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, 3 years of supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment.

Irvin Doye's case is scheduled for trial on April 29, 2003, also before Judge Williams.

This case was investigated by the Baltimore Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Montgomery County Police Department and the United States Attorney's Office in Greenbelt, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stuart A. Berman.